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The British Apollo:

OR,

Curious Amusements for the INGENIOUS.

To which are Added the most

Material Occurrences Foreign and Domestick.

Perform'd by some of the Society of GENTLEMEN, Concern'd in the First and Second VOLUME, with the Assistance of other Ingenious PERSONS.

From Wednesday February 7th. to Friday February 9th. 1711.

GENTLEMEN,

Q. *IF Sin is the cause of Misery, and there be a God that Governs the World with Justice, how come it to pass that he that Sins is often Happy, and he that Sins not Miserable?*

A. This has been in all Ages of the World one of the greatest Enquiries which has perplexed the Minds of Men. But the clear Resolution of the Question depends upon those Grounds and Principles which are discover'd to us by Divine Revelation in the Scriptures, concerning the Reasons of God's Patience towards wicked Men, and the Nature and End of Sufferings with which good Men are exercised. Notwithstanding, even the Philosophers themselves, have the Light of natural Reason given a very good Account of this Matter. Why in the first Place, God in his wise Providence, sometimes suffers the worst of Men to go on in Impunity, is satisfactorily accounted for by the following Reasons. 1. God forbears Wicked Men to propose to their Imitation the Example of his Goodness, and to teach them not to revenge their Injuries too greedily on each other. For if Offences are aggravated in Proportion to the Dignity of the Person, against whom they are committed, no Injuries of one Man towards another can be so great, as those Affronts Men put upon God, by by their continual Provocations of him: And if God then be of so infinite Patience, as to forbear such as have offended him, what Justice and Reason is there, but that Men should exercise more Lenity and Patience towards each other. 2. He forbears to Punish wicked Men, that they may have Time to become better. 3. He spares some from Punishment to make them Instruments of his Justice, in Punishing others. For in this, Divine Justice hath been remarkable in a Multitude of Instances, which every ones reading or Observation may afford him. 4. There are no fewer Instances to prove also, that God spares wicked Men a while, that his Providence may be more remarkably observed in their Punishment afterwards. 5. But the highest Vindication of Divine Providence, as to the Present Impunity of wicked Men in the World, is taken from the certain Prospect of a Judgment to come. God reserves them for a fair and open Tryal, for the greater Vindication of his Honour, and Manifestation of his Justice to the World. The other Part of the Question, which concerns the Sufferings of Good Men, is not of so great Difficulty, because there are none so good, as not to have a mixture of Evil in them: And as they have a mixture of Evil, so they have but a mixture of Punishment: for none lye under so great Miseries here, but withal they have some share in the Comforts of this Life. Besides, God brings them up as Children, under sharp Discipline for their future Benefit. If to these Things we had Time to add, what the Word of God discovers concerning the Nature, Grounds, and Ends of Afflictions, and that Glory which shall be revealed, in comparison with which, these light and momentary Afflictions are not at all to be valued; we should then have a full and clear Vindication of Divine Providence, as to the Sufferings of good Men, as well as to the Impunity of such as are wicked.

Q. *How came the History of the first Ages of the World to be so Corrupted among the Heathens, that we find but very few, and those obscure, if any remains of it in their Writers?*

A. The general Cause of it were undoubtedly. 1. The gradual Decay of Knowledg, and increase of Barbarity in the World, occasioned by the want of certain Records to preserve the Ancient History of the World in. For in the

Decay of Knowledg there must needs be a great Alteration of the Memory of former Times, which hath then nothing to preserve it, but the uncertain Report of Fame, which alters and disguises Things according to the Humours, Inclinations and Judgments of those whose Hands it passes through. 2. The gradual increase of Idolatry in the World, which began soon after the Dispersion of Nations: For as soon as it entred, all the Ancient Tradition was made Subservient in order to that end; and those Persons whose Memories were preserved in several Nations, by Degrees came to be worshipped under Diversity of Names; and such Things were annexed to the former Traditions, as wou'd tend most to Advance the greatest Superstition in the World. 3. The Confusion of Languages at *Babel*, was one great Reason of corrupting the Ancient Tradition of the World. For in so great and sudden a variety of Languages, it cannot be conceived, but such Things, which might be preserved in some uniform manner, had all Nations us'd the same Language, wou'd thro' the Diversity of Tongues be strangely alter'd and disguis'd. 4. The Fabulousness of the Poets: For these made it their Design to disguise all there Ancient Stories under Fables, in which they were so lost, that they never afterwards cou'd recover them. For the Elder Poets of *Greece*, being Men of greater Learning than the People generally were of, and being Conversant in *Egypt* and other Parts, did bring in new Reports of the Ancient Times, which they received from the Nations they went to; and by mixing their own Traditions and others together, they must necessarily make a strange Confusion of Things, as we accordingly find in their Mythology.

Q. Gentlemen, *I Love a Young Lady, but with a very odd Passion, and yet perhaps many Love with the like Passion. I am an* occasional Lover *(a pretty odd Term lately come up.) I Love her when others Address her, but when they are off, I am no longer on. I am not very violent of Marrying her my self, nor can bear another shou'd. Indeed I cannot well tell what I wou'd be at. I take a World of Delight in her Company, and forget it all as soon as I am out of it. Fancying sometimes this is not a real Passion for her, I try to Address another, to see if I cannot Affect her as much, but then she starts forth in my Thoughts and forbids the Banes: When I come to her again, I proceed well enough, till matters of Matrimony enter our discourse, then I am shock'd on a sudden, and am forc'd to Strain against my Inclination for Arguments, which sometimes she perceives and dismisses me with a Frown; then my Passion is all on a Flame again, till she Smiles on me, on which it begins to cool, yet not so as that I can give up my Interest in her. Pray tell me,* Gentlemen, *what I really ail, for I profess, I know not well, and what Methods you wou'd Advise me to take to be a little at ease, and you will Oblige.*

Your, Philander

A. This Passion of yours tends no farther, than to make her your *Mistress*, a Creature may be taken up with and cast off with Pleasure. You won'd have her at your Disposal, but she must have no right in you. Therefore e'en plainly tell her your Mind, and be so honest for once, as to let her truly know, what a wretched Creature she will thereby become; for a time be Carest, and then thrown upon the Common, to end her Days in loathsome Diseases and Contempt. Perhaps her Virtue may chcek your vicious Inclinations, and convert them to an Honourable Passion, or at least make you asham'd of proceeding further, in so dishonourable an one.

Q. Gentlemen, *Some Time ago I had an Affection for a young Lady, and she, I am very well assur'd, had the same for me; but my Friends seeming very much against it, we had a private Correspondence; but my Friends happening once to suspect it, and charging me with it, I owned it, but saying in a Passion, I wish I might never prosper, if ever I had her, not considering what I said; which as soon as utter'd, was a great Trouble both to me and my Friends. Now, since that, there is a very great Probability of all our Friends agreeing to it. And that I have also for these Seven Years, lived in the House with a young Lady, who is now above Eighteen Years of Age. Since I first knew her, I always fancied her for a pretty temper'd Child, and for that Reason, we always called one another Husband and Wife. She always seemed uneasy, though so very young, when I was absent, and I have always, since I first knew her carried it very kind to her, and have told her that I wou'd not have any Body but her. Within this little Time, some Body has told her, that I am going to be married, which as soon as she heard, she burst into Tears, and ever since has seem'd very disconsolate,* &c.

A. This is largely Answer'd in our first Volume, which is now Publish'd in Octavo.

POEMS.

Q. *THERE Lives a Lady hereabout,*
With Aspect terrible enough,
To fright away the strongest Lover,
If Cupid *did not Reign above her:*
She hath a Daughter fair and young,
From Loins of Jolly Bacchus *Sprung;*
Her Beauty, Shape, and Mein, and Air,
Do all conspire by gentle War,
To Captive Young Timorous Hearts,
Wounded with Cupid's *Golden Darts.*
Among this charmed Number I
Us'd prostrate, at her Feet to lye.
To gain her Love I bend my Mind,
And shou'd have forc'd good and kind,
If her sharp Mothers subtle Lies,
Had not restrain'd her Tongue and Eyes;
The first speak nought but her commands,
Which Yield the last in cruel Bands,
And gave them Objects such a Mother,
None ever had, nor I such a Lover;
As I by all Actions show'd,
Such I was known to the World abroad,

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

All wonder'd that my Conquereſs,
Did not attend my bold Endeavour,
But that I'm forc'd at laſt to leave her,
But if they had not known this evil
Mutur'd, this ſhe Politic Devil,
How cunningly ſhe firſt engag'd me,
And with baſe tricks had enrag'd me,
And made my Muſe her Enemy
I muſt believe, they then wou'd cry,
Brave Man who ſtill unconquer'd art,
And haſt defy'd her unſeen Dart,
Thou bravely haſt regain'd the Heart.
I muſt confeſs the Daugher's Love,
I aim'd at, who could Hermits move,
But never thought (with Cupid's leave)
That by Love only I cou'd Live,
I always did expect ſomething,
Of that which to the World doth bring
All things : But ſhe thought to delude
Me with vain ſhows, and ſo exclude
Me from her Gold, as if I were
A ſtupid Fool not fit to ſhare,
In Plato's Gifts : If ſhe thought ſo,
Then I proclaim and let all know,
For thinking ſo, ſhe is a Fool
And ought to go again to School,
To learn more Wit. Her Daughters Face,
If ſhe conſults a faithfull Glaſs,
To her Eyes will appear not bleſt
With ſuch bewitching Charms to wreſt,
My Senſes from me others know
This for a Truth and found it ſo.
I know ſhe doth in vain expect
Some Rich Old Doatard to direct,
Her Faint Eyes to her Daughter's Charms,
And blindly ruſh into her Arms ;
Since no Young Man (her Equal) will
Accept of ſuch a Bitter Pill
Without ſome Sugar ; and in vain,
Muſt every one expects to gain
Such ſweetneſs ; 'Tis Three Hundred Pounds
In Money, Houſes and in Grounds,
And till ſhe hears ſome Hundreds more
Are ſwimming from the Indian *Shore,*
A dozen Years will ſcarce effect,
The firſt, the laſt let her expect
Three Ages hence'twill ne'er come
I'm ſure until the Day of Doom.
She is not worth the Wrath my Muſe
Thus vents againſt her, let her choose
A nobler Theme, and not defile
In Filth her undefiled Quill.
If any Reader wou'd know more,
To th' two Blew-Poſts, *let him go o'er,*
A Perſon may be ſpoke with there,
Will ſatisfy his longing Ear.

A. Pretend'ſt thou to the Sex alas ?
Who'rt ſuch a dull unthinking Aſs,
That if thy Paſſion thou'dst inſiſt on,
Thou haſt not Brains to ask the Queſtion,
Or canſt thou hope Gold to Ingroſs,
When thou thy ſelf art wretched Droſs.
When thou doſt look and talk thy beſt,
'Twill make thee but the more their Jeſt,
But how the Oaph pretends to bait her,
By Writing heavy toothleſs *Satyr*,
Not knowing all the while (poor Elf)
He's but Lampooning of himſelf;
Yet while you ſeek thus to offend 'em :
You are kinder than if you commend 'em
For that wou'd ſeem (preſuming) you,
Their Merits and their Value knew.

SIR,

THE Letters from Smirna Dec. 8th Adviſe that the Turks being afraid that the Czar will endeavour to get into the Black Sea with a great Fleet, and poſſeſs the Mouth of Danube, from whence the Inhabitants of Conſtantinople draw moſt of their Proviſions, all Poſſible Application is uſed to prevent the Muſcovites and get the Turkiſh Fleet in readineſs ; That In order thereunto, all the Gallies of Scio, Negroponte and Rhodes are ordered to meet at Conſtantinople in 40 Days, and the Turkiſh Fleet is to conſiſt of 30 Capital Men of War, 50 Gallies and 150 Frigots or armed Barks ; That to Man thoſe Ships they are actually raiſing and with pretty good Succeſs 20000 Seamen ; That the Grand Signior has been preſent at the Proof of 200 Pieces of Cannon and Mortars, and tho' he does not deſign to Command his Forces in Perſon, his Highneſs will bo going for Adrianople by the middle of February, to review his Army and reſide there, to be nearer to give the neceſſary Orders for carrying on the War ; That a great number of Miners and Gunners are expected from France to ſerve in the Turkiſh Army, and Monſieur des Alleurs will attend the Grand Vizier in the Field, and aſſiſt in all Councils of War, as being an Experienc'd General, whoſe Councils may be of great uſe to the Ottomans, who have few Officers of any Experience amongſt them.

London, February 9th.

On Tueſday being the Anniverſary of her Majeſty's Birth-day, there was an extraordinary Appearance of Nobility and Gentry at Court, and at Night there were Bonfires, Illuminations and other Publick Demonſtrations of Joy.

On Saturday laſt his Grace the Duke of Rutland departed this Life at his Country Seat in Lincolnſhire, and is ſucceeded in Honour and Eſtate by the Marquis of Granby, his Eldeſt Son.

Which is all from Yours, &c.

Just Published.

The First Volume of the *British Apollo* in 8vo. containing above 2000 Answers to curious Questions in most Arts and Sciences, Serious, Comical and Humorous, approv'd of by many of the most Ingenious and Learned of both the Universities, and of the Royal-Society. *N. B.* Not one Volume of the first Edition, bound, was sold under 15 *s.* 6 *d.* and great Numbers were called for after all were disposed off. There being but a few left over what was subscribed for. Now to be sold at 6*s. per* Book, letter'd on the back, by *J. Mayo*, Printer, over against *Water-Lane, Fleet-street. S. Clark*, in *Birchin-lane. J. Woodward*, in *Scalding-Alley*, both near the *Royal-Exchange. J. Morphew*, near *Stationer's-Hall*, Booksellers, and also by most Booksellers in *London*.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

At a Certain Charge.

SUbscriptions are now taken in at the Office of Insurance on Marriage and Births, in the Little-Piazza, Covent-Garden, on the Birth or Baptizing a Child, where any one may be Intituled to 1000, 750, 500, or 250*l.* In a Month or 6 Weeks, from the Date of their Policies, by way of Weekly Payment and Dividend. NOTE, at the same place, one Person for 17 *s.* 6*d.* by him paid, did Receive 60 *l.* 17 *s.* 6*d.* At the same Place is 4 Books on Servants, where any one may be Intituled to 1000, 500. 250, or 100*l.*

AT the Widow Prat's Coffee-House, in Cat-Eaton-Street, between St. Laurance-Churchand the corner of Aldermanbury, is kept a most Regular and Faithful Office of Insurance on Marriages, both by Claims and Weekly Dividends. Wherein Persons may be admitted upon Two Months. And also Insurance upon the Births of Children by Claims, in which may be Enter'd upon Six Weeks. Note, that for these Societies Trustees are Chosen, and ample Security given, and one Person will in a few Days for the Expence of 10 s. cecieve 12 l. and on Thhursday the 8th Instant, Feb. will be open'd Books of Insurance on Births at a Certain Charge by Weekly Payment and Contribution, wherein 50 will be taken in upon one Month. At the same Place Subscriptions are taken in upon Menial Servants, for 4, 5 or 6 Months Continuance, in a Place or Service. Proposals of each are given Gratis at the Office. Where constant Attendance is given.

At a Certain Charge.

AT the 3 Crowns next to Durham-Yard in the Strand; Is newly open'd 3 Books on Marriages 3 on Births, and 3 on Servants: by a Weekly Payment and Dividend for six Weeks.

☞ At the same Place on *Tuesday* the 30th of January, was open'd 3 Books on Claims for 4 Weeks, on Marriages.

AT the Office of Insurance on Marriage, in *Bolt-Court, Fleet-Street*, any Person by Paying 2 *s.* for a Policy, Stamps and 2 *s.* towards each Marriage, until their own, or the Marriage of any other Person, may secure to themselves 200 *l. Note*, tho' this Office began but the 2d of *January*, there are above 1800 Subscribers, out of which no more than 26 Married this Year, who have received from 12 *l.* to 140 *l.* at the small Charge of 4 *s.* to 12 *s.* the 26 Claimants having paid no more than 14 *l.* for 2500 *l.* which will appear by their Receipts, which may be seen at the Office, and the Persons are all ready and willing to testify the Truth hereof: Wherefore 'tis hoped the Profits which are daily increasing, will induce all Persons who consult their own Interest to incourage this which has given such convincing Proofs by regular Payments of its Fairness and Advantage. At the same Place is a Second Insurance, where any Persons paying 5 *s.* for a Policy and Entrance, and 5 *s.* towards each Marriage, may Secure to themselves 500 *l.* Proposals may be had *Gratis*

FROM the Office of Insurance on Marriage, in King's Head Court, in Petticoat Lane, near Bishopsgate Street.

Notice is hereby given, that since the Death of Mr. Tho. Edwards late Director of this Office, the same is continued by his Widow and Administratrix, where daily Attendance is given, and Policies delivered out as usual.

N. *B.* This Office hath met with such success, that above Fourteen hundred Persons have already subscribed, and it is not doubted but it will be compleat within 5 or 6 Weeks, that Claims will begin to be paid by the 16th Instant, the said Mr. Edwards having, before his death, caused 12 Trustees to be chosen at Sadler's-Hall, to whom Security is given, according to the Articles of Settlement, and the said Trustees are resolved to support and encourage the said Widow and Administratrix in this lawful Undertaking.

The Office on Births is in like manner continued, where daily Attendance is given and Policies delivered out as usual.

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THE daily Testimonies I receive of the wonderful Effects of the late Famous Dr. TYSON's *Apoplectick Snuff*, obliges me to continue this Publication, it being in good esteem with Men of Learning and Quality, for curing all Distempers in the Head, *&c.* Are sealed up in Oval Tin Boxes, in the Printed Direction, with the Vertues at large. Sold at *Robin's* Coffee House in *Change Alley*; at the *Printing Press*, in *Fleet Street*, over against *Water Lane*; at the *Seven Stars*, under St. *Dunstan's Church, Fleet Street*, and at St. *James's Coffee House*, near St. *James's House*, at 3 *s.* 6*d.* each Box. To prevent any mistake, I have sealed the Boxes with this Seal, the *Serpent, Dove, Wheat Sheaf*, and *Lion*, having this Motto under it, *Inde salus populi.*

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